No woman may approach his silent Court:
Therefore to's seemeth it a needfull course,
Before we enter his forbidden gates,
To know his pleasure, and in that behalfe
Bold of your worthinesse, we single you,
As our best mouing faire solicitor;
Tell him, the daughter of the King of France,
On serious businesse craning quicke dispatch,
Importunes personall conference with his grace.
Haste, signifie so much while we attend,
Like humble visag'd suters his high will.

Boy, Proud of imployment, willingly I goe. *Exit.*

Prin. All pride is willing pride, and yours is so:
Who are the Votaries my louing Lords, that are vow-fellowes,
with this vertuous Duke?

Lor. Longauill is one.

Princ. Know you the man?

1 *Lady*. I know him Madame at a marriage feast,
Betweene L. *Perigort* and the beauteous heire
Of *Iaques Fauconbridge* solemnized.
In *Normandie* saw I this *Longauill*,
A man of soueraigne parts he is esteem'd:
Well fitted in Arts, glorious in Armes:
Nothing becomes him ill that he would well.
The onely soile of his faire vertues glosse,
If vertues glosse will staine with any soyle,
Is a sharpe wit match'd with too blunt a Will:
Whose edge hath power to cut whose will still wills,
It should none spare that come within his power.

Prin. Some merry mocking Lord belike, is't so?

Lad. 1. They say so most, that most his humors know.

Prin. Such short liu'd wits doe wither as they grow.
Who are the rest?

2. *Lad.* The yong *Dumaine*, a well accomplisht youth,
Of all that Vertue loue, for Vertue loued,
Most power to doe most harme, least knowing ill:
For he hath wit to make an ill shape good,
And shape to win grace though she had no wit.
I saw him at the Duke *Alansoes* once,

And much too litle of that good
Is my report to his great worthi
Rossa. Another of the Student
Was there with him as I haue hea
Berowne they call him, but a mer
Within the Limit of becomming
I neuer spent an houres talke wit
His eye begets occasion for his w
For euery obiect that the one doth
The other turnes to a mirth-mou
Which his faire tongue (conceits
Deliuers in such apt and gracious
That aged eares play truant at h
And yonger hearings are quite ra
So sweet and voluble is his discou
Prin. God blesse my Ladies, a
That euery one her owne hath ga
With such bedecking ornaments
Ma. Heere comes *Boyet.*

Enter B

Prin. Now, what admittance
Boyet. Nauar had notice of yo
And he and his competitors in oa
Were all addrest to meete you ge
Before I came: marry thus much
He rather meanes to lodge you in
Like one that comes heere to besi
Then seeke a dispensation for his
To let you enter his vnpeopled h

Enter Nauar, Longauill, D

Heere comes *Nauar.*

Nau. Faire Princesse, welcom
Prin. Faire I giue you backe ag
yet: the roofe of this Court is too
to the wide fields, too base to be
Nau. You shall be welcome M
Prin. I will be welcome then.

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE *Love's Labour's Lost* (STC 22295) LONDON, 1631 NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOT